

# LEATHER & TEXTILES.

CARE AND CLEANING

*Killer*

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## **THIS INFORMATION SHEET IS PROVIDED IN COOPERATION WITH:**

Bundesverband der vereidigten Sachverständigen für Raum und Ausstattung e.V.  
Frankenwerft 35, 50667 Köln, [www.bsr-sachverstaendige.de](http://www.bsr-sachverstaendige.de)

Verband der Deutschen Polstermöbelindustrie e.V.  
Goebenstr. 4-10, 32052 Herford, [www.vhk-herford.de](http://www.vhk-herford.de)

Verband der Deutschen Möbelindustrie e.V.  
Flutgraben 2, 53604 Bad Honnef, [www.moebelindustrie.de](http://www.moebelindustrie.de)

Verband der Deutschen Heimtextilien-Industrie e.V.  
Hans-Böckler-Str. 205, 42109 Wuppertal, [www.heimtex.de](http://www.heimtex.de)

Verband der Deutschen Lederindustrie e.V.  
Fuchstanzstraße 61, 60489 Frankfurt am Main, [www.vdl-web.de](http://www.vdl-web.de)

Bundesverband des Deutschen Möbel-, Küchen- und Einrichtungsfachhandels (BVDM)  
Frangenheimstr. 6, 50931 Köln, [www.bwb-online.de](http://www.bwb-online.de)

Verband der Chemischen Industrie e.V. (VCI)  
Mainzer Landstraße 55, 60329 Frankfurt am Main, [www.vci.de](http://www.vci.de)

Industrievereinigung Chemiefaser e.V.  
Mainzer Landstraße 55, 60329 Frankfurt/Main, [www.ivc-ev.de](http://www.ivc-ev.de)

Industrieverband Körperpflege- und Waschmittel e.V.  
Mainzer Landstraße 55, 60329 Frankfurt am Main, [www.ikw.org](http://www.ikw.org)

Deutscher Textilreinigungsverband e.V.  
Adenauerallee 48, 53113 Bonn, [www.dtv-bonn.de](http://www.dtv-bonn.de)

wfk - Cleaning Technology Institute e.V.  
Campus Fichtenhain 11, 47807 Krefeld, [www.wfk.de](http://www.wfk.de)

In addition, consumer associations are able to provide information.



# GENERAL INFORMATION.

## PRELIMINARY NOTE

Just like all materials of daily use, materials like leather and cover fabrics require regular care, since they are continuously exposed to a steady dust and dirt contact. In general, these sorts of soiling should not become too intense in order to facilitate cleaning as well as to secure longevity. Proper care and cleaning will preserve the attractive appearance as well as the utility value of your upholstered furniture.

When buying new upholstered furniture you should consider the following:

- Area of application: Kids' room, living room or bed room
- Choice of colors: When it comes to bright colors the danger of visible stains increases. Due to that, depending on the intensity of use, lighter covers should be cleaned at shorter intervals. Weekly vacuuming with an upholstery nozzle is recommended. Moreover, during a quarterly cleaning oil and grease particles should be removed.  
  
Attention: In case of light colors a discoloration, e.g. due to denim fabrics, might occur. Even if jeans have been washed several times, the denim fabric releases dye repeatedly due to mechanical friction, which is deposited on the cover fabric of your upholstered furniture. This is clearly a defect of the clothing fabric and does not bear any relation with the upholstery fabric.
- Upholstery covers: Flat-woven fabric, suede, upholstery leather
- Yarns: Natural fibers, chemical fibers and blends
- Finishing: fixed or removable upholstered covers



## **CLEANING BY THE CUSTOMER**

Cleaning measures by the customer consist of

- Maintenance care
- Stain removal
- Intermediate cleaning

*Please note:*

*Basic cleaning should be left to an expert for upholstery cleaning (see chapter 3). An upholstery cleaning by an expert is worthwhile and saves you money. This fiber-deep cleaning preserves the attractive appearance as well as a substantially longer service life of your furniture item.*

## **NECESSARY PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENTS**

When it comes to the selection of cleaning agents, it should be ensured that only pH-neutral agents are used. Acidic cleaners damage cotton and cellulose fabrics, alkaline cleaners are not suitable for wool fabrics.

A complete wash out of the cleaning agent is essential for effective stain removal, since residues might lead to a quick re-staining.

Procedure:

Observe manufacturer's instructions for equipment and devices being used. Remove dust prior to testing. Check color fastness and surface modification of the upholstery cover by rubbing a soft, clean, white cloth, which is soaked with stain remover, on a non-visible part of the upholstery. The results can only be assessed when the item is dry. This check is also necessary with natural colored fabrics.



# UPHOLSTERY COVERS.

CARE & CLEANING

## CHARACTERISTICS OF DIFFERENT UPHOLSTERY COVERS

### VELOUR

The term „velour“ covers all substances, in which fibers are woven into a base fabric. A comfortable haptic, an appealing appearance as well as a high wear resistance characterize velour fabrics. Typical and thus normal characteristics of this type of fabric are iridescence effects and an alteration when it comes to the direction of the nap of the fabric.

#### Iridescence effects

It appears as though the fabric has lighter or darker color variations depending on the reflections of light as well as the different nap directions. This is no product defect, but a characteristic of the product.

#### Crushing/sitting marks

In rare cases crushing/sitting marks may appear with velour upholstery fabrics and flat-woven fabrics like chenille due to the effect of body pressure, body warmth, body moisture, air humidity or the base upholstery used.

These may occur as stain-like changes of the surface and are called shiny marks. This is no product defect either or a sign of poor quality, but also a characteristic of the product. Experience shows that even suitable care measures like steaming or brushing do not lead to a satisfactory result.



## FLAT-WOVEN FABRICS

Flat-woven fabrics are fabrics, in which two groups of threads cross each other right-angled. Flat-woven fabrics have a pleasant haptic and may be processed in many different qualities. Usually they are not as durable as velour fabrics. Typical signs of use are small nodules on the surface of the fabric, called 'pilling effect'.

Flat-woven fabrics like chenille provide a velvet-like surface due to the chenille yarn used and can develop slight optical variations due to pile loss as well as pilling and iridescence effects (see description in paragraph "Velour") in usage.

## TREVIRA® CS

In order to make fabrics permanently flame-retardant, Trevira®CS synthetic fibers are used. Trevira®CS fabrics thus meet the requirements of current international fire protection standards without sacrificing features like design, care, structure, haptic or effects.





## MAINTENANCE OF UPHOLSTERY COVERS

Cover	Fibers	Brushing	Vacu- uming	Wiping
Velour	Cotton Linen Mohair Silk Synthetic/ cellulosic chemical fibers (Trevi- ra® CS) Wool	With a soft brush in nap direction (e.g. with a clothes brush)	Use an up-holstery nozzle with soft bristles	With a damp, clean, soft cha- mois (in nap direction)
Flat-woven fabric	Cotton Linen Mohair Silk Synthetic/ cellulosic chemical fibers (Trevi- ra® CS) Wool	Dust off with a clean, smooth upholstery nozzle (no bristles)	With a clean, smooth up-holstery nozzle (no bristles)	With a damp, clean, soft chamois



## STAIN REMOVAL FROM UPHOLSTERY COVERS

Professional stain removal and thorough cleaning should always be carried out by an upholstery cleaner. If you still would like to try it yourself, please proceed as follows:

Please note the paragraph „Necessary preliminary examination“.

- Stains in textile covers can be most easily removed immediately after they occur.
- Dab damp stains with an absorbent cloth or paper. Treat residues with diluted carpet or upholstery shampoo (see instructions of the product). Under no circumstances apply cleaning agents directly to the cover fabric. Apply shampoo on a white cloth. Moisten the cover only, do not wet it. Then rub off the remaining shampoo with a damp cloth. Caution: Rubbing may change the surface of the textile cover fabric. Always perform the final treatment in nap direction.
- Be sure to let the upholstery dry immediately (eventually using a hair dryer at low level) and only use it after it has thoroughly dried.
- Dry stains can be treated like the residue of damp stains.
- If insoluble traces of the stain should remain, dab with a white cloth dampened with benzine.



## STAIN REMOVAL FROM UPHOLSTERY COVERS

Type of stain water-soluble	Means   Method
Fruit juices, lemonade, Coke drinks, coffee, tea, beer, spirits	Immediate treatment with a lukewarm solution of water and shampoo. Do not allow to dry.
Coffee with milk, milk, cocoa, cream, mayonnaise, sauces, soups, lipstick, perfume, shoe polish, soot, ink, indelible pencil, ball pen, vomit	Immediate treatment with a lukewarm solution of water and shampoo. If the stain cannot be removed, treat with white spirit, benzene or stain remover.
Blood, egg, stool, urine	Treat with cold water and eventually a solution of shampoo and water. Do not use hot water, as protein coagulates.

Type of stain water-insoluble	Means   Method
Butter, grease, oil, shoe polish (oil-based), floor polish, paint (varnish), indelible pencil, resin, tar	Treat with solvents such as benzene, white spirits or commercial stain remover. This method is not applicable to fabrics such as Belleseime, Alcantara and Gacella.
Candle wax	Crumble as much as possible and lift off carefully. When it comes to velour, there is a risk of surface damage. If necessary, treat with benzine several times. Do not treat the soiled area with an iron.
Chewing gum, modelling clay	Consult a professional.
Rust, dried blood	Dampen with a white cloth with citric acid (a level spoonful in 100 ml of cold water) and rub on the stain working from the edge to the middle.

In case of stains of unknown origin: First proceed according to „Type of stain water-soluble“; if the result is unsatisfactory, then proceed according to „Types of stains water-insoluble“.



**INTERMEDIATE CLEANING OF UPHOLSTERY COVERS**

Cover	Fibers	Dry shampoo	Liquid shampoo	Notes
Velour 1	Mohair Synthetic chemical fibers (Trevira® CS) Wool	Spray on a water-damp, squeezed sponge and rub in.	Use liquid shampoo to create foam. Apply foam thoroughly with a sponge.	Treat the soiled area entirely. After each treatment brush with a soft brush in nap direction.
Velour 2	Cotton Linen Suede Cellulosic chemical fibers (Trevira® CS)	Do not treat.		
Flat-woven fabrics 1	Cotton Linen Suede Cellulosic chemical fibers (Trevira® CS)	Treat like recommended under „Velour 1“.		Treat the soiled area entirely.
Flat-woven fabrics 2	Linen Suede	Do not treat.		

Be sure to let the upholstery dry immediately and use it only after it has entirely dried.

# UPHOLSTERY LEATHER.

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## IMPORTANT ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO THE CLEANING OF UPHOLSTERY LEATHER

Regular cleaning and care of upholstery leather prevents soiling and prolongs the life-span of your furniture item.

- Check the leather in order to find out whether it has a smooth or rough surface.
- Pre-test care and cleaning products within a non-visible area for color changes and changes to the surface according to the instructions on their labels. Always use products extensively from seam to seam. Please do not try to remove stains that have been absorbed into the leather by heavy rubbing. This might damage the surface additionally.
- Never try to remove stains with the help of solvents (stain remover, turpentine, gasoline, etc.), since the soiled areas then tend to spread.
- Do not treat upholstery leather with unsuitable products like shoe polish, cosmetic cream, floor wax, etc.
- Leather changes due to direct sunlight exposure or nearby positioned radiators and thus might fade and dry out. Those impacts should be kept as low as possible. Always use care products with appropriate UV protection.

## NECESSARY PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

Please check the colorimetric behavior of your upholstery leather within a non-visible area by rubbing it with a white, soft, clean cloth moistened with the appropriate care or cleaning agent. If the cloth is stained, the agent is not suitable. Please observe the manufacturer's information.





## CARE AND INTERMEDIATE CLEANING OF UPHOLSTERY LEATHER

Cover	Care	Intermediate cleaning
Smooth leather: All nappa leather types such as aniline leather, semi-aniline leather, pigmented leather, covered split leather, plain leather	Remove dust regularly with a soft cloth.  Treat with a leather care product for smooth leather every 3 to 6 months according to the instructions for use.  For stain protection, impregnate with aniline leather impregnation once a year.	Remove dust with a soft cloth.  Remove heavier soiling with aniline leather cleaner.  Treat with leather care for aniline leather according to the instructions for use afterwards and impregnate subsequently.
Suede leather: Velour leather Nubuck leather Split leather	Vacuum regularly with a vacuum cleaner (soft brush).  Roughen stressed areas with a soft brush, nubuck pad or foam sponge.  Treat with a leather care product for suede leather every 3 to 6 months according to the instructions for use.  For stain protection, impregnate annually with a suede leather impregnation.	Remove dust carefully with the help of a vacuum cleaner (soft brush).  Remove heavier soiling with a leather cleaning agent for suede leather according to the instructions for use and re-impregnate.



## STAIN REMOVAL FROM UPHOLSTERY LEATHER

Type of leather	Liquids	Spilled food and grease
Smooth leather: All nappa leather types such as aniline leather, semi-aniline leather, pigmented leather, covered split leather, plain leather	<p>Remove immediately with absorbent cloth or paper from the leather surface. Do not rub!</p> <p>Clean the remaining stains with a suitable leather cleaner and treat with a care product afterwards in order to impregnate.</p>	<p>Remove immediately with absorbent cloth or paper from the leather surface. Do not rub!</p> <p>Do not continue to treat grease stains. They often gradually move into the leather and become invisible.</p> <p>Clean other residual stains with appropriate leather cleaner and treat with a care product afterwards in order to impregnate.</p>
Suede leather: Velour leather Nubuck leather Split leather	<p>Remove immediately with absorbent cloth or paper from the leather surface. Do not rub!</p> <p>Clean the remaining stains with a suitable leather cleaner, then roughen the fibers carefully and treat with a care product afterwards in order to impregnate.</p>	<p>Remove immediately with absorbent cloth or paper from the leather surface. Do not rub!</p> <p>Clean the remaining stains with a suitable leather cleaner, then roughen the fibers carefully and treat with a care product afterwards in order to impregnate.</p>



# BASIC CLEANING.

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Basic cleaning should be carried out by an expert. Addresses of cleaning experts are gladly shared by consumer associations.

The German Textile Cleaning Association (Deutscher Textilreinigungs-Verband e.V.) is happy to assist in finding addresses of specialized companies as well:

Deutscher Textilreinigungs-Verband e.V. | Adenauerallee 48 | 53113 Bonn  
Telefon 0228 71002270 | E-Mail [info@dtv-bonn.de](mailto:info@dtv-bonn.de) | [www.dtv-bonn.de](http://www.dtv-bonn.de)

# STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS.

FOR FURNITURE

Proper care and storage of your furniture items is going to extend their lifespan.

- Interior furniture items should always be stored at standard room temperature, avoiding too high or too low temperature or humidity degrees.
- Your furniture items should be stored in a clean environment that meets standard space requirements.
- Please keep the furniture away from heat sources as well as chemicals, flue gases, corroding surfaces or similar.
- Protect furniture from direct sunlight (also behind glass) or other sources of ultra-violet radiation.
- The furniture should always be stored and transported in the appropriate storage or transport devices.



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